

2004 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 338

Offered January 30, 2004

Commending the Animal Welfare Coalition of Hampton Roads on its efforts to end the euthanasia of healthy, adoptable animals.

Patrons—Drake, Alexander, BaCote, Barlow, Cosgrove, Councill, Gear, Howell, A.T., Joannou, Jones, S.C., Lewis, McDonnell, Melvin, Oder, Purkey, Rapp, Spruill, Suit, Tata, Ward, Wardrup and Welch; Senators: Blevins, Locke, Quayle, Rerras and Wagner

WHEREAS, addressing the problems of companion animal overpopulation in the Commonwealth of Virginia requires a coordinated strategy using a network of committed private shelters, municipal shelters, animal control officers, veterinarians, animal rescue groups, civic leaders, and volunteer private citizens; and

WHEREAS, members of the Animal Welfare Coalition of Hampton Roads (AWCHR) are committed to helping end companion animal overpopulation and the euthanasia of healthy, adoptable animals; and

WHEREAS, a year-long community-wide survey supporting the first State of Animal Welfare in Hampton Roads report was completed by AWCHR under sponsorship from The Norfolk Foundation and delivered in a public presentation with copies to all Hampton Roads elected and appointed city officials; and

WHEREAS, the AWCHR provides an inclusive forum to receive, discuss and exchange ideas and develop consensus for the animal welfare community as a guide for policy makers; and

WHEREAS, the leadership of AWCHR has encouraged a coordinated regional approach to the problems of companion animal overpopulation by meeting with city and county government officials throughout the Hampton Roads area; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Animal Welfare Coalition of Hampton Roads on its efforts to end the euthanasia of healthy, adoptable animals by creating a coordinated strategy using a network of lay and professional advocates; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Debra Griggs, Chairperson of the Animal Welfare Coalition of Hampton Roads, as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for the Coalition's efforts on behalf of homeless and abused companion animals.

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